

PETITION TO MAKE APPLICATION SPECIAL

July 2, 2003

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Accompanying this letter is a continuation-in-part application for U.S. Patent by applicant Martin Thomas Weber for LIGHT FIXTURE COVER SYSTEM AND METHOD.

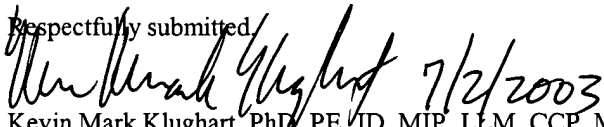
Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.102(c) (MPEP § 708.02) to MAKE SPECIAL THIS APPLICATION because

- (a) the present invention increases the lifespan of outdoor light bulbs and their associated fixtures by protecting the lamps and lamp fixtures from insect infestation and water damage, thus materially contributing to the reduction of landfill waste associated with lamp fixtures that are discarded because of failures due to insect infestation and water damage;
- (b) the present invention significantly increases light bulb life by preventing cracking of lamps caused by water spray that comes in contact with hot bulb surfaces, resulting in a material increase in lamp life as well as a material reduction in the number of discarded light bulbs;
- (c) the invention materially increases energy conservation by protecting lamp fixtures from water damage which results in corroded electrical contacts and reduced lamp efficiency while simultaneously permitting lamp fixtures and their associated covers to be washed to provide maximum lighting efficiency; and
- (d) the invention conserves energy resources by permitting a reduced number of outdoor lighting fixtures to be used in situations where the light bulb reliability must be accounted for in determining the overall outdoor lighting requirement, as in public safety situations involving parking garages, parking lots, and the like.

Given the widespread use of outdoor lighting, and especially the substantial amount of energy devoted to safety lighting applications, the present invention presents a significant improvement in the overall efficiency of outdoor lighting systems, both from a total efficiency standpoint as well as the lighting efficiency of any given outdoor lighting fixture.

Applicant need not submit a petition fee as per 37 CFR § 1.102(c), since the rule specifically exempts environmental and energy-related inventions from the petition fee. ("A petition to make an application special may be filed without a fee if the basis for the petition is the applicant's age or health or that the invention will materially enhance the quality of the environment or materially contribute to the development or conservation of energy resources."). Applicant certifies that a prior art search has been performed prior to the filing of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

 7/2/2003
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D.Ct. NH; D.Ct. ED/ND.TX, USPTO Reg. No. 39252;
U.S. Tax Ct. #KK0194, U.S. Ct. of Federal Claims)
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